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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR/Poland

SUBJECT Data on Interceptor Planes

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

DATE DISTR. 25 Feb 1954

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

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1. Reports from Poland confirm that the AA defense inside the Soviet Union is equipped with small rocket propelled fighter planes, for the defense of the approaches to the USSR and of targets inside the USSR. In these interceptor planes, the pilot is not sitting, but lying. When the plane is rising, thanks to the steep angle, the pilot nearly stands. Reports about Soviet rocket sites in the Baltic States were, in recent months, connected with the development of this Soviet "rocket fighter plane defense system".
2. The Polish fighter units are now subject to alarm training, which they have to practice repeatedly. There are two types of alarm training:
 - a. Ordered by the local commanding officer of the respective air regiment.
 - b. Ordered by a higher command, affecting several regiments of fighters at the same time.
3. There is little difference in the procedure. The commanding officer notes the time at which the alarm is sounded, and the time when the pilots are ready to take off. Then a short discussion follows, with indications how to shorten the time and how to proceed with the "mission" on which the pilots are instructed. The political officer usually gives an explanation that these are "exercises for defense against attack by the Western imperialists against Poland".

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